Kansas Hospitals Lead by Example with Healthier Options
53 hospitals make healthier onsite food and beverage environments a reality

(July 30, 2017) The Kansas Hospital Association is pleased to announce that the Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation has received policy changes from 53 Kansas hospitals that have adopted healthier food and beverage options throughout their facility. This enhanced access to healthy food aims to positively impact hospital employees, patients and visitors, while also helping to establish norms for healthier living for the communities they serve.

This work is part of Healthy Kansas Hospitals, a multi-year initiative that provides resources and technical assistance to help create food and beverage environments in Kansas hospitals that ensure healthy options are the routine, easy choice for everyone. Eighty-one hospitals participated in this initiative over the last four years and took the lead in creating a roadmap for worksites to navigate the challenges associated with implementing healthier environments.

Hospitals made their own decisions related to changes to the food and beverage environment based on an individualized assessment. Examples include increasing the availability of healthy entrees, adding nutrition labeling for meals in the cafeteria, eliminating fried foods, adding healthier snack items to vending machines and increasing employee education around the topic of nutrition and diet.

The following hospitals have made policy changes:

Allen County Regional Hospital, Iola
Atchison Hospital, Atchison
Bob Wilson Memorial Grant County Hospital, Ulysses
Children’s Mercy Hospital Kansas, Overland Park
Citizens Medical Center, Colby
Clara Barton Hospital, Hoisington
Clay County Medical Center, Clay Center
Cloud County Health Center, Concordia
Comanche County Hospital, Coldwater
Community HealthCare System, Inc., Onaga
Community Memorial Healthcare, Inc., Marysville
Fredonia Regional Hospital, Fredonia
Girard Medical Center, Girard
Goodland Regional Medical Center, Goodland
Gove County Medical Center, Quinter
Hamilton County Hospital, Syracuse
The Healthy Kansas Hospitals initiative is a project of the Kansas Hospital Education and Research Foundation. Established in 1969, by the Kansas Hospital Association, KHERF’s mission is to facilitate collaboration and innovation to improve health delivery for Kansas communities. The Kansas Health Foundation, a private philanthropy dedicated to improving the health of all Kansans, provided funding for Healthy Kansas Hospitals.

The Kansas Hospital Association is a voluntary, non-profit organization existing to be the leading advocate and resource for members. KHA membership includes 212 member facilities, of which 127 are full-service, community hospitals. Founded in 1910, KHA’s vision is: “Optimal Health for Kansans.”

For more information, visit HealthyKansasHospitals.org.

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